

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Paul Freiberger et al.

Assignee: Interval Research Corporation

Title: Attention Manager for Occupying the Peripheral
Attention of a Person in the Vicinity of a Display
Device

Serial No.: 08/620,641 Filed: March 22, 1996

Examiner: Jeffery A. Brier Group Art Unit: 2775

Attorney Docket No.: IR-003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231DECLARATION OF PHILIPPE P. PIERNOT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

I, Philippe P. Piernot, hereby declare that:

1. I am an inventor of the invention of the above-referenced patent application.
2. I have reviewed the claims of the above-referenced patent application.
3. Prior to October 1995, I developed a computer program that periodically acquired content data from a Web site and displayed an image generated from the content data as "wallpaper" on a display device of the computer on which the computer program was executing.
4. Prior to October 1995, subsequent to the development of the above-described computer program, I engaged in one or more discussions with Paul Freiberger regarding an idea that Paul indicated he and Giles Goodhead had conceived for a system in which a computer periodically acquires content data (in

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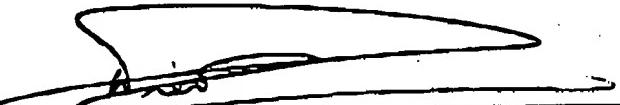
particular, data representing news stories) from one or more other computers and uses the content data to generate a display of one or more images on a display device of the computer whenever the computer has been inactive for a predetermined duration of time. During these discussion(s), I informed Paul of the above-described computer program that I had developed. As a result of my discussion(s) with Paul, I modified the computer program that I had developed so that the content data was used to generate a display of one or more images on the display device whenever the computer had been inactive for a predetermined duration of time.

5. Prior to October 1995, subsequent to the above-described discussion(s) with Paul Freiberger, and development and modification of the above-described computer program, Paul and I continued to identify and discuss ideas for further modification of the computer program, and I continued to further modify the computer program to add features based upon these discussions. As a result of these modifications, prior to October 1995, an operational computer program had been developed which included at least the capabilities recited in Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 14, 15, 18-22, 24-29, 31, 32, 41, 42, 45-49, 53, 54 and 61-63 of the above-referenced patent application as filed.

6. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or

imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date: 7-29, 1998


Philippe P. Piernot